

Message Text

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - CHILEAN COUP

NORWEGIAN MEDIA, IN REPORTING CHILEAN COUP D'ETAT, HAVE STRESSED U.S. ROLE IN LATIN AMERICA AND SOME PAPERS, AS WELL AS NKR-TV, HAVE IMPLIED THAT U.S. POLICIES TOWARD ALLENDE CONTRIBUTED TO HIS DOWNFALL. STRONGEST OF THESE REPORTS IS DAILY DAGBLADET (INDEPENDENT) COMMENTARY THURSDAY BY OLAV STORVIK. EXCERPTS THIS COMMENTARY FOLLOW:

"EVER SINCE HE WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT IN SEPTEMBER 1970, SALVADOR ALLENDE WAS A THORN IN THE EYE OF SEVERAL POWERFUL INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES AND THE NIXON-ADMINISTRATION. OPENLY AND BOLDLY, HE MADE IT CLEAR HE INTENDED TO NATIONALIZE THE COUNTRY'S KEY INDUSTRIES OWNED PARTLY OR COMPLETELY BY FOREIGN INTERESTS. THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION WAS PUT TO A TEST WHEN ALLENDE ANNOUNCED HE WOULD PURSUE A RADICAL FOREIGN POLICY AND STRONGLY CONDEMNED THE AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA....

"FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD FACE A REAL CHALLENGE FROM THE RADICAL CHILEAN POLITICIANS. THE EXCITING QUESTION WAS WHETHER THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION WOULD MEET THIS CHALLENGE IN A REASONABLE WAY, OR WHETHER THE U.S., AS USUAL, WOULD LET DOWN A DULY ELECTED PRESIDENT AND INSTEAD THROW ITS SUPPORT BEHIND THE OLD AND OUTLIVED SYSTEMS.... "THE ANSWER CAME QUICKLY, AND ALREADY A YEAR LATER CONCRETE ACTIONS WERE WORKED OUT FOR THE REMOVAL

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OF ALLENDE. SOME OF THE MEASURES WERE PUT IN ACTION TO

PREVENT THE SUCCESSFUL REALIZATION OF HIS POLICIES.

"IN AUGUST OF 1971 CHILE WAS REMOVED FROM THE LIST OF
LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES ABOUT TO RECEIVE U.S. DEVELOPMENT
LOANS IN 1972....

"IN 1972 WASHINGTON POST PUBLISHED THE TEXT OF 27 SECRET
DOCUMENTS FROM ITT, ALL OF WHICH DEALT WITH THE COMPANY'S
INTRIGUES AIMED AT PREVENTING THE TAKEOVER OF POWER BY THE
CHILEAN POPULAR FRONT AFTER THE ELECTION VICTORY IN SANTIAGO
IN 1970. ITT DID NOT SUCCEED WITH ITS PLAN IN 1970, SHORTLY
AFTER THE ELECTION OF ALLENDE, BUT THE SITUATION IN CHILE
TODAY BEARS SUSPICIOUS RESEMBLANCE TO THE ONE DEALT WITH IN
THE SECRET (ITT) DOCUMENTS.

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